

25X1

CLASSIFICATION <u>SECRET</u>		
COUNTRY <u>Austria</u>	REPORT	
TOPIC <u>Military Activities at the Apetlon AAA Range</u>		
		25X1
EVALUATION <u></u>	PLACE OBTAINED <u></u>	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT <u></u>	25X1	
DATE OBTAINED <u></u>	DATE PREPARED <u>8 April 1955</u>	
REFERENCES		
PAGES <u>3</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS		
This is UNEVALUATED Information		

The following activities of Soviet AAA units were observed at the Apetlon AAA Range between 1 and 14 March 1955:

25X1

1. On 1 March, a column of about 30 motor vehicles towing an undetermined number of medium AA guns passed through Apetlon toward the See (lake).
2. On 3 March, a column of about 50 motor vehicles, including a large number towing medium AA guns, came from the direction of Neusiedel am See and went toward Podersdorf. Local residents stated that a column of AA guns passed through Apetlon and went toward the lake on the same day.
3. Between 0800 and 1600 on 5 March, a column of 15 motor vehicles, including trucks towing medium AA guns, and a field kitchen came from the direction of the camp and passed through Apetlon. An undetermined number of medium AA guns also belonged to the column. A column of medium AA guns including truck driven by a soldier with red-bordered black epaulets and towing a medium AA gun, passed through Apetlon and went toward the camp on the same day.
4. At about 2000 on 10 March, a column of an undetermined number of motor vehicles towing medium AA guns passed through Apetlon and went toward the lake. At 0100 on 11 March, a large column of motor vehicles came from the direction of Illmitz or Wallern, passed through Apetlon and went toward the camp.
5. Between 0800 and 1700 on 13 March, a column of medium and heavy AA guns came from the direction of Illmitz or Wallern passed through Apetlon and went toward the lake. Trucks towing canvas-covered medium tanks

25X1

25X1

25X1

towed canvas-covered heavy AA guns. All vehicles were driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. Another column of 10 motor vehicles, most of them towing medium AA guns, passed through Apetlon and went toward the lake on the same day. Truck driven by a soldier with red-bordered black epaulets and towing a medium AA gun was seen. **NODEX-M**

25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

25X1

- 2 -

6. Between 0900 and 1700 on 4 March, target practice at air targets was practiced with medium AA guns. Noise of an aircraft was heard. Local residents stated that the aircraft towed a sleeve-target. On the morning of 5 March, the firing with medium AA guns at air targets continued.
7. At about 1400 on 13 March, target practice at air targets was again observed.
8. The following is a list of vehicular traffic observed at Apetlon between 2 and 14 March. All drivers and soldiers seen wore red-bordered black epaulets.

Between 0900 and 1600 on 2 March. Trucks [redacted] towing a field kitchen, [redacted]

25X1
25X1

Between 0900 and 1700 on 4 March. Trucks [redacted]

Between 0800 and 1600 on 5 March. Trucks [redacted]

25X1

Between 1000 and 1600 on 6 March. Trucks [redacted]

25X1

Between 0900 and 1200 on 7 March. Trucks [redacted]

25X1

Between 0900 and 1600 on 8 March. Trucks [redacted]

25X1

Between 1100 and 1500 on 9 March. Trucks [redacted]

25X1

Between 1500 and 2000 on 10 March. Trucks [redacted]

At 0100 and between 0900 and 1500 on 11 March. Trucks [redacted] and jeep [redacted]

25X1

Between 0900 and 1600 on 12 March. Trucks [redacted]

25X1

Between 0900 and 1700 on 14 March. Trucks [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] loaded with timber, truck [redacted] occupied by 15 soldiers wearing red armbands with a white inscription. and trucks [redacted]

25X1

9. On 13 March, a lieutenant colonel wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia visited an inn in Apetlon. Conversation indicated that the officer was the commander of the unit which was stationed at the Apetlon AAA Range. He made inquiries about the contact between the local residents and Soviet soldiers.

25X1

SECRET

SECRET

25X1

- 3 -

On 12 March. several Soviet soldiers tried to pay in Hungarian currency as they did previously. They demanded 100 schillings for 35 forints.

On 11 March. 10 railroad cars of coal came from Wallern. The coal was brought to a Soviet storage shed on Gotzen Gasse in Apetlon.

Comment. During the first half of March 1955, the Apetlon AAA Range was occupied by Soviet units. most of the units came from Hungary, while some units were air force AAA units from Wiener Neustadt. It is noteworthy that heavy AAA guns were observed. The guns possibly are of 100 mm, a type which, however, has not yet been observed in Austria, Hungary and the GDR. Since the heavy AA guns were towed by trucks from Hungary, it is possible that they belong to a large AAA unit in Hungary, or to AAA units of the air defense similar to those in the USSR.

25X1

25X1

SECRET